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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MAR 17 2003

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Applicant: Cynthia C. Bamdad et al.  
Serial No.: 09/602,778  
Conf. No.: 9746  
Filed: June 23, 2000  
For: Interaction of Colloid-Immobilized Species with Species on Non-Colloidal Structures  
Examiner: G. Counts  
Art Unit: 1641

AlH  
pp  
3/25/03

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the 28 day of February 2003.

Signature

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**AMENDMENT A**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 28, 2002 (Paper No. 11.), reconsideration of the above-identified application is requested in view of the following amendments and remarks. A petition for a three month extension of time is enclosed.

In the Specification

Please amend the above-identified application as follows. A marked-up version of the rewritten paragraphs below are appended hereto illustrating the changes:

Please rewrite the paragraph on page 16 at line 25 as follows:

“Covalently fastened” means fastened via nothing other than one or more covalent bonds. E.g. a species that is covalently coupled, via 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide/N-hydroxysuccinimide (EDC/NHS) chemistry, to a carboxylate-presenting alkyl thiol which is in turn fastened to a gold surface, is covalently fastened to that surface.

A.